

AF / JFE

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Yasuhisa FUJIWARA et al.

Group Art Unit: 3625

Application No.: 09/820,760

Examiner: R. Pond

Filed: March 30, 2001

Docket No.: 108207

For: METHOD, SYSTEM AND APPARATUS FOR EFFECTING
ELECTRONIC COMMERCIAL TRANSACTIONS

SUMMARY OF SUBSTANCE OF INTERVIEW

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

A personal interview was conducted by Applicant's representative with Examiner Pond on October 26, 2004. Applicant appreciates the courtesies shown to Applicant's representative by Examiner Pond in the personal interview. A summary of the substance of the personal interview is contained in the following remarks.

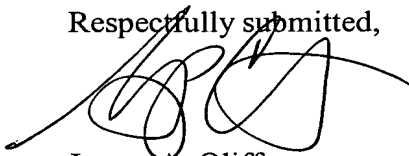
During the personal interview, Applicant's representative presented arguments and proposed amendments addressing the outstanding 35 U.S.C. §§112 and 101 rejections. Specifically, claim 10 was proposed to add "means for" language in the last paragraph and claim 9 was proposed to clarify that the various steps are performed electronically as part of an electronic commercial transaction. It was agreed during the interview that such changes should overcome the outstanding rejections.

During the October 26, 2004 personal interview, Applicant also discussed the outstanding prior art rejections. Although no agreement was reached, Examiner Pond

indicated that an updated search would be conducted and additional prior art may be cited and applied. During the personal interview, it was also discussed that because the §101 rejection was not made in the first Office Action and was not necessitated by Amendment, it likely made the current Final Rejection premature. During a subsequent telephone conference with Examiner Pond on October 26, 2004, Applicant's representative was advised that the outstanding August 25, 2004 Final Rejection was being withdrawn because the new grounds of rejection (*e.g.*, §101 rejection) was not necessitated by Applicant's Amendment. It was also indicated that the Examiner would issue a new, non-final Office Action restarting the period for response.

Accordingly, it is Applicant's understanding that no further response to the August 25, 2004 Final Rejection is necessary. Instead, Applicant awaits issuance of the new, non-final Office Action.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

Stephen P. Catlin
Registration No. 36,101

JAO:SPC/fpw

Date: October 29, 2004

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